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SUPPLEMENT [REDACTED]

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1. Dissension within the SPD is shown in the correspondence which took place between Hessian State Secretary, Dr. Hermann Brill and Dr. Kurt Schumacher of the Party Executive Committee in July 1947. The principal issues in dispute appear to be the Bi-Zone Executive Committee and Economic Council, or supra-zonal organizations in general, and the internal control of the party.
2. Schumacher accuses Brill of presenting his own personal views, which are not in accord with policies already discussed and accepted by the party, as having the party sanction. Brill's proposal for dissolving the administrative councils is attacked as "particularism" and as "practically a piece of sabotage". A conference was suggested in which Brill and the Party Executive Committee might discuss the issue. In reply, Brill gave a long and detailed statement of his aims and motives, emphasizing the idea that he had proposed a bi-zonal administrative association with the concurrence of Professor Karl Joachim Friedrich, advisor to OMGUS on German governmental structure, had kept Stock, Minister-President of Hesse, well informed on all his activities, and had also communicated them promptly to the SPD.
3. In a second letter to Schumacher written a few days after the first, Brill reiterates that he acted in conjunction with other party members and with their full knowledge and that he made no proposals which he felt to be contrary to party policy. With some asperity he mentions his long and devoted party career but refuses to be coerced. Schumacher's response praises the tolerance of the party in permitting such dissident views but insists on adherence to the party policy and closer cooperation with party headquarters.
4. The principal impression conveyed by this correspondence, aside from the invective virtuosity of its innuendos, is that Dr. Schumacher maintains a firm hold on party thinking and is intolerant of any deviation from his line. His opposition appears particularly strong towards the Executive Committee, which he feels was imposed upon the bi-zonal administration against the wishes of the British and against his own strenuous advocacy of German centralism. He is correspondingly in favor of the Länderrat because it diminishes Land sovereignty and works towards a central government. On the other hand, Brill's sponsorship of federation is equally firmly

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expressed, and his dissatisfaction with subordination to the Hannover headquarters is sharply in evidence.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment: The value of this report is considerably diminished by the recent reversal of Dr. Schumacher's views. It does, however, give a fairly good picture of Schumacher's attitude towards questions of party policy.)

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